

**WESTERN NEW YORK
REGIONAL INFORMATION CENTER
CHAPTER 793 PLAN
2015 – 2018**

Progress Report as of March 8, 2018

Progress since last WNYRIC Advisory Council Meeting is in red ink and italics

Highlights of Progress Report:

Objective 1: 1.1, 1.3, 1.5, 1.6, 1.10, 1.12

Objective 4: 4.3

Objective 5: 5.2, 5.5, 5.7

Objective 6: 6.1, 6.3, 6.4

Objective 7: 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4

793 Plan for 2015 – 2018

Objective 1: Provide a secure, robust, cost effective infrastructure at WNYRIC, in the cloud, as well as in the district as appropriate.

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
1.1 Continue to design, implement and advocate for the most flexible, cost effective, resilient, redundant, secure and robust bandwidth (network connectivity) for each school district and BOCES through competitive bidding practices	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Datacenter Operations Team	<p>The most flexible, cost effective resilient, redundant and robust internet and school district intranet network is in place.</p> <p>We are starting the process for the next bid.</p> <p><i>Installed new Perimeter Firewall at Erie 1 BOCES/WNYRIC</i></p>
1.2 Continue to review and implement cost effective Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity initiatives for applicable Tier 1 applications and continue to design DRBC strategies for Tier 2 applications based on time of recovery needs.	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Disaster Recovery Team Application Teams	<p>Continued enhancement of DR readiness for WNYRIC Tier 1 applications with DR cycle testing in place and Tier 2 applications DR readiness complete based on required time of recovery needs.</p> <p>Meetings with application teams are occurring to determine updated Disaster Recovery Strategies for all hosted applications.</p> <p>Continuing to meet with hosted application teams to ensure the Disaster Recovery plan is up to date.</p>
1.3 Implementation of centralized, cost effective network security tools	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Goal is realized as the most effective security measures are put in place on our network based on recent or future network threats. These security measures are

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for wide area network and local area network security.			implemented by WNYRIC network engineering staff in the local school districts, as necessary. <i>Additional security enhancement come from WNYRIC Staff support of new security recommendations for use of 802.1x as the Standard for port-based Network Access Control (PNAC) via the use of centralized advanced RADIUS engines authentication and authorization logic.</i>
1.4 Implement Change Management to effectively communicate with end users and staff regarding process or technical changes to avoid downtime or outages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Configuration Management ○ Release Management 	July 1, 2017– June 30, 2018		Change Management is in place and ITIL (Information Technology Infrastructure Library) best practices are in place and communicated to the field.
1.5 Enhance how stake holders are informed of bandwidth utilization trends to better prepare and implement optimization strategies to optimize bandwidth availability	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Datacenter Operations Team	Reporting four times a year at Advisory Council, Standards, DL consortium, and Technology Coordinators. <i>Researching new reporting tools to help keep stake holders informed.</i>
1.6 Research, design and implementation strategies are shared to ensure a robust managed wireless network is in place in school districts and BOCES	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		The most flexible, cost effective resilient, redundant and robust centrally managed wireless network is in place which can support the school district and BOCES needs. <i>By adding additional vendors we've increased competition to drive down cost while holding firmly to best practices component specifications</i>
1.7 Enhance communication methods to school district customers to inform efficiently and effectively	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Efficient and effective communication methods are in place and proven effective through customer feedback.

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1.8 Continue work with other BOCES/RICs and districts to find cost effective ways to deliver internet bandwidth and network security	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Cost effective methods are in use by customers.</p> <p>Working with UB to determine feasibility for increasing internet bandwidth.</p>
1.9 Improve network infrastructure, security, and management options for public libraries by connecting to district broadband	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Connections to public libraries requested to school districts are in place</p>
1.10 Implementation of centralized cost effective network security service utilizing the latest software and hardware security tools for wide area and local area networks	July 1, 2017- June 30, 2018	Technical Services Team	<p>Security Service is available and implemented as districts engage in other technologies that impact network security.</p> <p><i>Additional Districts have been added to the Enhanced Security Service .</i></p>
1.11 Continue to investigate emerging technologies, and the technical effectiveness, as well as, and implications on current the future services	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Technical Services Team	<p>Pilot projects are implemented</p> <p>Investigating Cloud based solutions for Infrastructure and Application Hosting at WNYRIC.</p>
1.12 Provide enhanced services in response to emerging customer needs	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Technical Services Team	<p>Services to respond to emerging districts needs are provided.</p> <p><i>Pilot to evaluate the concept of the Extended Classroom to Busses, Field Trips, and off campus educational events.</i></p>

Objective 2: Continue to enhance instructional offerings under Common Set of Learning Objectives (CSLO)

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
2.1 Continue to provide new offerings through the statewide RFP process and ensure compliance with Education Law 2d	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	R & D Team	<p>New RFPs are released and awarded. STEM and Reading & Writing RFPs closed on August 28th with webinars being held on Sept 18th (STEM) and 25th (Reading & Writing). We anticipate the awards to go to the board in October.</p> <p>Awards: STEM RFP Front Row, My Power Learning, Kinderlab Robotics, Cengage, iStation, iDesign, My Stem Kits, Tynker, Mad Learn</p> <p>Reading & Writing RFP: Cengage, Turnit In, iStation, Renaissance, Charmtech Labs</p>
2.2 Provide online offerings as part of the catalog offerings	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	CSLO & Model Schools	<p>Online offerings are in place that support anywhere/anytime learning on the part of teachers. The RIC will continue to work with the local BOCES to provide resources for the school districts in the region.</p> <p>Online Academy - http://e1b.org/TrainingWorkshops/TechnologyIntegration/CSLO/Workshops/OnlineCourses201718.aspx</p>
2.3 Continue to investigate emerging technologies and their instructional uses and implications	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	R & D Team	<p>Pilot Programs are implemented. Dates and follow up for various topics are in place.</p> <p>Districts scheduled for the 2017-18 school year up to this point: Wellsville CSD, Whitesville, Genesee Valley Central School, Westfield Academy and Central School, Silver Creek, Starpoint CSD, Cheektowaga Central , Cuba Rushford , Hamburg CSD, Williamsville CSD, Clarence Central School District, Depew UFSD, Holland , Bemus Point, Frewsburg Central School District.</p>

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
2.4 Work with lead agencies that develop and implement regulations to be in compliance with all State and Federal regulations – This includes the tech plan survey tool as well as any necessary support for the Smart Schools Bond Act	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	CSLO & Model Schools	Compliant policies and regulations are promulgated.
2.5 Collection of data that supports the impact of technology on instruction and student learning	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	CSLO & Model Schools	Data from program evaluations will be available. Student achievement impact from various software programs on the CSLO software list will be compiled and a repository built.
2.6 Continue to investigate and support Science Technology Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) initiatives throughout the region	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		New RFPs released and awarded. The RIC will continue to work with the local BOCES to provide resources for the school districts in the region. STEM RFP closed on August 28 th . Webinar will be held on Sept 18 th and awards will take place at October board meeting. New Enterprise Mobility Management RFP will be out in Dec. Other RFPs scheduled to come out: STEAM, typing, tutoring, distance learning.
2.7 Enhance communication methods to school district customers to inform efficiently and effectively	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Efficient and effective communication methods are in place and proven effective through customer feedback.

Objective 3: Support anywhere/anytime secure cloud environments to meet district's needs.

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
3.1 Investigate and support secure cloud based solutions for collaboration.	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Secure cloud based solutions are in place and supported.
3.2 Continue to investigate and communicate research results of work completed related to new technologies to provide anywhere/anytime secure access on any device for all services, users and learners	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Additional appropriate technologies which may impact network inter-operability complexities are reviewed, proof of concepts conducted, and the technologies are submitted for review and approval to the Standards Committee if appropriate. Additional application services are offered and implemented.
3.3 Extended Classroom, Mobile Learning and Connected Transportation	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Technical Services Team	Provide a safe, secure and cost effective ways to expand broadband beyond the school campus utilizing wireless broadband and cellular LTE technology.

Objective 4: Investigate and implement cost savings and optimization strategies to achieve sustainability in service offerings

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
4.1 Manage grants that support or enhance the entire WNYRIC region in relation to increased efficiencies and cost containment	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Grants are awarded, activities are complete and grant dollars received and distributed.
4.2 Optimize services by utilizing effective analytic tools.	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Use of metrics for trends and growth are in place and utilized to optimize services offered and to improve end user experience.
4.3 Continue to offer robust, cost effective centralized remote access End Point Device Management Solutions to reduce manual desktop support (sneakernet) and optimize instructional time by eliminating downtime.	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Centralized and cost effective end point device management solutions (SCCM and IBM TEM) are in place, reports reviewed and remediation measures are implemented.</p> <p>Standardized Windows imaging by successfully creating a universal image, giving districts more centralized capabilities in software distribution.</p> <p>Successfully implemented JAMF for MAC OSX, providing districts with the ability to manage all Apple devices from one pane of glass.</p> <p><i>The IBM TEM (BigFix) service will close due to one participating district on June 30, 2018.</i></p>
4.4 Research and inform districts and BOCES about technologies that provide for a greener environment	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Collaborative solutions are in place that continue to reduce the carbon footprint throughout the region.
4.5 Continued utilization of inclusive Microsoft Active	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Effective use of Microsoft Active Directory as the primary and secure authentication source for account management to applications and resources on the shared broadband network, and in the cloud, is in place for ease of use.

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Directory to aid in efficient sharing of resources			
4.6 Implement regulations to be in compliance with all State and Federal regulations – including any necessary support for the Smart Schools Bond Act	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Compliant policies and regulations are promulgated.
4.7 Enhance communication methods to school district customers to inform efficiently and effectively	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Efficient and effective communication methods are in place and proven effective through customer feedback. Monthly newsletters are sent to eSchoolData and PowerSchool districts.

Objective 5: Develop and provide data systems, processes and services in support of administration, accountability and or instructional improvement

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
5.1 Support the process for and data needed for interim and online assessments	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Data Services Team	<p>Data services for interim and online assessments are provided.</p> <p>Data for STAR, iReady, eDoctrina and Castle Learning are provided as part of the base data integration service or as individual extract services. Fast Bridge AIMSWeb Plus and IXL are also now available options.</p>
5.2 Research and support new data collection requirements	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Information, training and support for new data collection requirements are provided.</p> <p>Data collection for the 17-18 school year opened on September 18. Two new templates are required this year: course instructor assignment and student class entry/exit.</p> <p>The second training session for new District Data Coordinators was held on 11/17.</p> <p>This year's Quarterly District Data Coordinator meetings began in late September and will continue through the year.</p> <p><i>The WNYRIC Test Scoring team has developed an online tool to allow districts to print answer sheets and submit NYSITELL student screening assessments as needed. Score reports are available quickly to assist with English Language Learner service and placement decisions.</i></p> <p><i>With careful consideration and input from the field, redesigned the 3 – 8 ELA and Math answer sheet to provide more efficient handling for schools and cost savings due to the change to black and white printing.</i></p>

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
5.3 Provide data support for the NYSED EngageNY Portal as requested by school districts	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Information, training and support for the NYSED EngageNY is provided
5.4 Provide expanded, more inclusive data integration service that encompasses all offerings	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Data Services team Student and Data Warehouse teams	A Data Integration service is in place. Fifty-Five districts currently participating in the Data Integration service. The base service includes integration of eSchool Data or PowerSchool data with commonly used Special Education, Cafeteria, Library, Transportation, Health, Notification and Assessment systems. A growing list of other system integrations are available at additional cost. Research on new data integration methods and improvements is ongoing.
5.5 Provide expanded data reporting, as well as, support programs that allow teacher level access to appropriate data	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Data warehouse team	Expanded data reporting services are available.. Data Warehouse simplified navigation interface, new folder layout for ease of use. Student performance reports are available now, prior to the first load of staff/ student / course files to warehouse. Student teams provided extracts from eSD and PS to the DW team. Current year teachers can see results for their students on last year's 3-8 ELA and Math assessments. A new report has been prepared to assist districts in preparation of their CR Part 154 Comprehensive ELL Education Plans (CEEP). It identifies English Language Learners in summary and by specific reporting requirements including subgroup, IEP status, home language, grade, school building, and instructional program. <i>A report has been developed to help districts understand the new ESSA accountability requirements. The report uses previous (2016-17) assessment participation/performance information to estimate how the new ESSA calculation methods might affect 3-8 assessment performance indices for the district and subgroups.</i>

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
5.6 Enhance communication methods to District Data Coordinators to inform efficiently and effectively	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Data warehouse and student teams	Efficient and effective communication methods are in place and proven effective through customer feedback.
5.7 Incorporate data privacy and security information into service delivery	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Data warehouse and student teams	<p>Data privacy and security information is provided. Data Warehouse has begun implementation of Building-Level Security for all districts that have requested it. (12 districts so far). Districts are reminded annually of best practice regarding data privacy and security. PowerSchool and eSchoolData teams offer data review service to assist districts in identifying/rectifying potential issues.</p> <p><i>Three districts are participating in the Security Review services and four in Security Maintenance service of their student system.</i></p>
5.8 Provide a data security and privacy service for assisting districts with managing the requirements of Ed Law 2D, as well as, other district needs	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Instruction and Administrative Services Team	<p>Data privacy and security service is available. Six districts participating in 2017-18 and to date. Participating districts are currently developing their data inventories using the online inventory tool. Professional development and additional planning with district administrators will begin in Spring 2018.</p>

Objective 6: Support the initiative for Computer Based Testing (CBT)

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
6.1 Communicate current NYS requirements regarding CBT	July 1, 2017– June 30, 2018		<p>Districts are provided appropriate information to successfully implement Computer Based Testing (CBT). An on-site introduction to the 3-8 CBT testing system was provided by NYSED on September 29th.</p> <p><i>A training session for participating schools was held in February and additional training for CBT scoring will be held on March 6th. Proctor training webinar will broadcast on March 21st. Eighty-two schools in thirty-six districts and three non-public schools will participate at some level in 3-8 CBT this year.</i></p>
6.2 Provide security within endpoint management	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Solutions are in place that provides security for Computer Based Testing within the internet connections, the network and the endpoints.</p>
6.3 Support CBT vendor solutions	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Vendor provided solutions have been implemented to support CBT in school districts both locally and at a state level.</p> <p><i>Six school districts will participate in vendor scoring of the NYS 3-8 assessments as a pilot project. Three of the six districts will be using vendor scoring for about 2000 CBT student assessments. The other three districts will be using vendor scoring for approximately 3000 PBT student assessments.</i></p>
6.4 Implement adequate and redundant infrastructure in the school districts	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Datacenter Operations Team	<p>Effective infrastructure at the districts is in place for CBT.</p> <p><i>Researching the feasibility of 1 GB connection directly to the Internet from each district.</i></p> <p><i>Implementing redundant Internet connections from interested Districts to the RIC.</i></p>
6.5 Investigate/research/assist districts with readiness for online assessment use through planning for technology and providing technical expertise and best practices as needed	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Districts are assisted with readiness for CBT or emerging online assessments. The RIC continues to assist districts with testing their readiness for the CBT exams.</p>
6.6 Enhance communication methods to school district	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Efficient and effective communication methods are in place and proven effective through customer feedback.</p>

customers to inform efficiently and effectively			
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Objective 7: Continue to enhance existing management/administrative services with updated functionality and new product offerings

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
7.1 Implement and support solutions to meet the needs of school business and Human Resources and Administrative operations and ensure compliance with Education Law 2d	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>Solutions for Financial, HR and Administrative Services are implemented and supported.</p> <p>Increased participation in several services: completed implementations of 6 districts in Applicant Tracker, 2 in QWare maintenance and scheduling software, 1 in Textbooks and 2 in Raptor which is one of the visitor management systems we support. Master Library Schedules and Work orders is now added to our supported service offerings. Converted 2 districts to nVision from FM system, implemented Raptor in 3 districts, QWare in 2 districts and Applicant Tracker in 2 districts. Assisted 86 districts in uploading Staff Snapshot & APPR scores to Level 0.</p> <p><i>Increased Participation in several services: completed the implementation of 4 districts in Applicant Tracker, 2 in QWare maintenance & scheduling software, 1 in Raptor Visitor maintenance software, and 1 to My Learning Plan. Converted 2 districts to nVision from FM financial system. For 53 districts we printed and filed 23,146 w-2's and 2,338 1099's and assisted the other 33 districts in processing and filing their own forms. We printed 4107 1095's for 17 districts and assisted 68 districts in preparing and extracting their data for generating their 1095's.</i></p>
7.2 Implement and support solutions for the effective management of information about students and ensure compliance with Education Law 2d	July 1, 2017– June 30, 2018		<p>Solutions for student related data needs are implemented and supported. Participation in PowerSchool and eSchoolData extended support service for data reporting and/or application support continues to grow. <i>Fourteen districts participating.</i></p>
7.3 Implement and support solutions for an expanded website service	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		<p>New and enhanced solutions are implemented and supported.</p> <p><i>Finishing two districts with website bundles for SchoolMessenger. Thirteen districts with websites or bundled packages for Blackboard either have or are being implemented.</i></p>

Goal/Activities Needed to accomplish objective	Timeline/Start End	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress Reported by	Completion Criteria/Evidence of Progress
			Begun implementation and support of integrated mobile apps from both SchoolMessenger and Blackboard.
7.4 Provide enhanced services in response to emerging customer needs	July 1, 2017– June 30, 2018		<p>Services to respond to emerging districts needs are provided.</p> <p>WNYRIC hosted an accessibility awareness and training session 11/20/2017 for districts to learn about web accessibility, what it means, and what it involves.</p> <p><i>WNYRIC hosted a digital content accessibility training 1/19/2018 and had 62 people from 31 districts attend.</i></p> <p>The Siteimprove service was enhanced to provide more training and support of web accessibility in response to the latest demand. The service now has 8 districts participating.</p>
7.5 Enhance communication methods to inform constituencies efficiently and effectively	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Efficient and effective communication methods are in place and proven effective through customer feedback.
7.6 Incorporate data privacy and security information into service delivery	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018		Data privacy and security information is provided
7.7 Continue to investigate emerging technologies for administrative use, as well as, implications on current and future services	July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018	Administrative Application Services Teams	Pilot projects are implemented